

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF AVERY**

The Avery County Board of Commissioners met in a Joint Meeting with the Avery County Board of Education on Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. at Avery County High School, 401 Avery County High School Rd., Newland, NC. The purpose of the meeting was to tour the construction site of the Addition and Renovation of the Avery County High School; discuss the Addition and Renovation; receive updates of the capital items for the school district and discuss any other school related issues.

Members Present: Martha Hicks, Chair; Dennis Aldridge; Blake Vance; Wood Hall Young, Jr.

Members Absent: Tim Phillips (illness)

Board of Education Members Present: John Greene; Kathy Aldridge; Jane Bumgarner; Pat Edwards; Steve Smith

Call To Order

Chair Hicks called the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m.

The Board of Commissioners and the Board of Education toured the construction site for the Addition and Renovation of Avery County High School.

After the tour, both Boards met in the cafeteria of the Avery County High School to discuss capital items for the school district.

Jeff Jaynes, Avery County Schools Finance Officer, updated the Boards on the capital items. This year the total capital budget was 1.1 million dollars. As of December 31, 2019 we have spent out ½ million of that budget. Twelve projects have been completed. We presently have eight projects that are underway. We have a couple of lighting projects going on that we are waiting on the contractors. The big thing that we are prepped for presently is the heaving sidewalks at the Banner Elk Elementary School. We are still waiting for the wrecker. It has been ordered but they have to build it. Troy Cook wrote a safety grant and we were awarded \$40,000 for security camera upgrades. There is money in this budget to do some security lighting and cameras update. We will take the grant money and the money that is in the budget and be able to do more work at one time. The grant and capital outlay money will also allow us to install vape detectors.

John Greene stated that this was the first joint meeting with Dr. Dan Brigman. These boards work very well together and the Board of Commissioners has been very generous.

Dennis Aldridge said we are going to start working on budget before long so are there capital projects that would be rolled into next year's budget or do you have a feel for the capital for next year's budget. Mr. Jaynes said the budget collection information had been sent out to the principals and district administrators. We are going to start working with everyone around the middle of February so I don't have a good handle on everything that is coming in. I do know there are certain things we are looking into.

Dr. Brigman said the roof at Crossnore School will be forthcoming. Mr. Jaynes has gotten an engineering firm to seek a quote. There are two options, one is a shingle roof and the other is a metal roof. The price difference between shingle and metal is twice as much. Dr. Brigman asked what the opinions were on this. Chair Hicks stated that the Board of Commissioners had decided at an earlier meeting that metal would be the best choice.

Jeff Jaynes said there are issues with HVAC and the elevator at Cranberry Middle/Freedom Trail and these will be brought to you in the upcoming budget.

Tim Greene, Avery County Finance Officer, updated the boards on the spending for the Avery High School Addition and Renovation. In the project ordinance there is \$20,296,000 and as of today we have spent a little over 5 million. The change orders have been minimal other than the soil nailing.

Wood Hall Young, Jr. questioned when the date for occupancy of the high school is anticipated. Rob Johnson, Boomerang Architect, said that soil nailing and bad weather days have been an issue and they will revisit the schedule in April.

Adjourn

Motion by Dennis Aldridge and second by Blake Vance to adjourn this meeting at 5:36 p.m. Motion unanimously approved (5-0).

Martha Hicks, Chair
Avery County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: _____
Cindy Turbyfill, Clerk